

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS (SONA) 2019 SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS

During course of this year, will reflect on past 25 years – nationhood since 1994

Year ago set out on path of growth and renewal

We are restoring the bonds of trust

Held successful Jobs Summit

SOEs – taken decisive measures

Also dealt with State Capture including law enforcement agencies whose integrity has been eroded in recent years (NPA SARS SSA SAPS)

Introduces Shamila Batohi as NDPP – ‘you watch this space’

SARS – ‘you watch this space’

SSA – soon to be announced a ‘truly professional national intelligence agency’ + re-establish the two arms of intelligence service (local and foreign)

Work on reconfiguration of state on-going

Five most urgent tasks that will underpin everything we will do this year:

- 1 Accelerate inclusive growth and job creation
- 2 Improve education system
- 3 Improve lives of poor South Africans
- 4 Step up fight against corruption and State Capture
- 5 Strengthen capacity of state

Significant progress made to restore policy certainty (mining + visa regime)

Highest priority this year will be on introduction of a world class eVisa regime

Investment Conference attracted around R300 billion in investment pledges from South African and international companies.

Significant increase in foreign direct investment last year – R17 billion inflow of foreign direct investment + first three quarters of 2018 shows there was an inflow of R70 billion.

Another Investment Conference to be held again this year

Provinces should hold their own investment drives/ conferences

Policy, legal, regulatory and administrative barriers that frustrate investors will be looked at and reported to cabinet

Target to be among world's top 50 'Doing Business Report' performers in next 3 years

Greater attention on expanding exports + focus on raising sophistication of exports

Soon to sign into law Competition Amendment Bill – to open up new opportunities to enter economy and tackle monopolies

Will intensify “buy South Africa” programme

Focus this year on significantly expanding small business incubation programme

Township digital hubs will be established, initially in four provinces

Employment Tax Incentive to be extended for another 10 years

We will support the work of the Constitutional Review Committee tasked with the review of Section 25 of the Constitution to deal with expropriation of land without compensation; deputy president to lead the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Land Reform to fast-track land reform - advisory panel of experts headed by Dr Vuyo Mahlathi, established to advise government on its land reform programme, is expected to table its report by the end of March 2019

Target to get 21 million tourists to visit RSA by 2030

Since 2014 more than R1.3-trillion invested in infrastructure - to build hundreds of schools and two new universities, to build hundreds of thousands of new houses, to electrify more than a million homes, generate new electricity and to expand public transport

Another R100-billion to be committed to this Infrastructure Fund over next 10 years

Education and skills development to be prioritised – technology will be used to facilitate this move to the Fourth Industrial Revolution

Audit found that nearly 4,000 schools still have inappropriate sanitation facilities - 699 schools have since been provided with safe and appropriate sanitation facilities and projects in a further 1,150 schools are either in planning, design or construction stages

Target to get rid of unsafe and inappropriate sanitation facilities within the next three years.

SOEs – board changes made at Eskom, Denel, Transnet, SAFCOL, PRASA and SA Express

Presidential SOE Council to oversee these function optimally

No disposal of 'strategic' SOE assets

ESKOM – attention being paid to stabilise and reduce costs + threats to economy + government will support Eskom's balance sheet + Eskom will need to develop a new business model moving ahead

ESKOM – to be split into three arms - Generation, Transmission and Distribution – under Eskom Holdings

HOUSING - 500,000 housing units planned for next five years; R30 billion will be provided to municipalities and provinces for this;

NHI Bill - ready for submission to Parliament

Corruption – more action to be taken against those involved in corruption. Agreement with NDPP to establish an investigating directorate dealing with serious corruption and associated offences, in accordance with section 7 of the NPA Act. It will soon be promulgated that will set out the specific terms of reference of the Directorate. The Directorate will focus on the evidence emerging from the Zondo Commission of Inquiry into State Capture, other commissions and disciplinary inquiries. It will identify priority cases to investigate and prosecute and will recover assets identified to be the proceeds of corruption. The Directorate will bring together a range of investigatory and prosecutorial capacity from within government and in the private sector under an investigating director reporting to the NDPP.

Harsher against those public servants doing business with state - Ethics, Integrity and Disciplinary Technical Assistance Unit will be established + operationalisation of section 8 of the Public Administration and Management Act to be looked at;

8 May 2019 – general election date